

Amended Claims

Please cancel claims 1-22.

*A2*  
28. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27 wherein the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen comprises  $\text{Si}_x\text{N}_y\text{O}_z\text{:H}$ , wherein x is from 0.39 to 0.65, y is from 0.02 to 0.56, and z is from 0.05 to 0.33.

*sub B2*  
29. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27 wherein the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen physically contacts the metal silicide layer.

30. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27 wherein the silicon nitride layer physically contacts the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen.

31. (Once Amended) The [circuitry] gate stack of claim 27 wherein the silicon nitride layer physically contacts the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen, and the layer comprising silicon, nitrogen and oxygen physically contacts the metal silicide layer.